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DEPT PASS TO IO/HR: COLLEEN NEVILLE  
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E.O. 12958: N/A  
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SUBJECT: Greek Response to UNGA Third Committee Demarche

REF: STATE 109397

¶1. (SBU) On October 26, Poloff raised reftel points on the UN General Assembly Third Committee with Elias Photopoulos, Director of the MFA D4 Directorate of Human Rights, and with Loukas Tsokos, Second Counselor in the MFA D1 Directorate for the UN and International Organizations. On no-action motions, Tsokos noted that Greece voted against the no-action motion on the Iran resolution in 2008 and there was "no reason for Greece to change its position this year." Photopoulos said that Greece would "follow the EU consensus" on the Iran, Burma, and DPRK resolutions and had no change of position from 2008. (NOTE: Greece voted in favor of all three resolutions in 2008. END NOTE.)

¶2. (SBU) Photopoulos and Tsokos had no substantive comment on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, but welcomed U.S. engagement. Photopoulos said Greece shared U.S. concerns on the concept of "defamation of religion" and would follow EU consensus on the issue.  
Speckhard